



## MILILANI MAUKA/ LAUNANI VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 35

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2006 MILILANI MAUKA ELEMENTARY

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Melissa Graffigna called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dana Agader, Marlene Blackwell, David Ellis, Melissa Graffigna, Dean Hazama, Doug Mossman, Kimberly Ribellia, Alan Suwa, and Pamela Young.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**GUESTS:** Edmund Aczon (Senator Daniel Inouye's Office Staff), Mary Peddie, Chris Aguinaldo (Ka Nupepa), Carleton Ching, Representative Marilyn Lee, Lt. Stephen Nishihara (Honolulu Police Department – HPD), Capt. James Oshiro (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD), Dan Peddie, Jan Kemp (Board of Water Supply – BWS), Brian Sekiguchi (Deputy Director, State Department of Transportation; Governor's representative), Michelle Kidani (Neighborhood Commission Office Staff; Mayor's representative), Scout Troop 664; Pat Lee and Jennifer Russell (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project -- HHCTCP); Brandon Mitsuda (Council Chair Dela Cruz's Office Staff); Tony Gaston and Kathy Best (Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii Inc.); Staff Sergeant Gerald Mark (US Army), and Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**POSTING OF COLORS BY BOY SCOUT TROOP 664:** Chair Graffigna requested Scouts from Mililani Mauka Boy Scout Troop 664 to present the United States and the State of Hawaii Colors. Scouts led in giving the Pledge of Allegiance, posted colors and retired from the meeting. Chair Graffigna thanked the Scouts.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 18 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** Chair Graffigna announced that additional material with reference to a prior Castle and Cooke Hawaii presentation will be posted to the Minutes of the March 21, 2006. **Ellis moved and Suwa seconded to accept the April 18, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously, 9-0-0. Aye:** Agader, Blackwell, Ellis, Graffigna, Hazama, Mossman, Ribellia, Suwa, Young.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Suwa reported the following account balances for the month of April 2006: (1) Operating - \$1,009.19 (2) Publicity - \$877.00 (3) Refreshment - \$53.80.

**Blackwell moved and Mossman seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried unanimously, 9-0-0. Aye:** Agader, Blackwell, Ellis, Graffigna, Hazama, Mossman, Ribellia, Suwa, Young.

**RECOGNITIONS:** Chair Graffigna announced no recognitions for this meeting.

### COMMUNITY REPORTS AND CONCERNS:

**Honolulu Fire Department** – Capt. James Oshiro reported the following statistics for the month of April 2006, responding to 44 alarms, including five structure, two brush and three vehicle fires, twenty-eight medical and six miscellaneous emergencies. He reported no unusual incidents. He suggested the following Fire Safety Tip:



Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out escape routes with at least two ways out of each room. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 911.

Chair Graffigna inquired if the community's cellular antennas interfere with radio operation; he responded that there was no interference between the cells and radios.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)** – Lt. Stephen Nishihara reported statistics for the month of April 2006 include: Mililani total burglaries were 15, with two in Mauka; 35 unauthorized entry of a motor vehicle in Mililani with 11 from Mauka and 15 theft cases with six from Mauka. He noted that there had been a prior suggestion for the Board to consider closure of the two major Mililani Mauka community parks from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. to allow for more protection of the parks. Ellis asked for comments on graffiti tagging of the parks in the past several weeks; Nishihara noted that generally graffiti can be attributed to all types of individuals, from a single, to a young group, to transients from another community, to college kids, to young working adults and reported that there is a HPD group who is targeting this community crime on an island wide basis.

**Military** – Staff Sgt. Gerald Mark reported the impending return of deployed troops would increase military vehicle traffic for the next two weeks and that the anticipated deployment helicopter aircraft to “the big sandbox” would result in an increase of traffic which would then drop off in the end of June. Chair Graffigna thanked him for his report.

**Board of Water Supply (BWS)** – Jan Kemp distributed material on the BWS rate increase and water-transfer tattoos and reported the following: (1) Mililani Mauka Elementary School student Lauren Ko won second place in the recent BWS 2006 Water Conservation Week poster contest, winning a prize of \$75.00. She placed second out of the 2520 entries. (2) There were no area main breaks for the month of April 2006. (3) A BWS 13% water rate increase has been announced to take effect on October 1, 2006, which will be shown on the bill due in December. The October increase is to be the first in a series of regular annual increases that will increase water rates 58% over five years.

**Oahu Arts Center (OAC)** – Ribellia reported the success of the recent 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament (Friday, May 12, 2006 at Kapolei Golf Course). Chair Graffigna and Ribellia reported that a Night of the Arts event was planned for August 26, 2006 at the Mililani Golf Course.

**Central Oahu Regional Park (CORP)** – No report.

**Castle and Cooke** – Tony Gaston reported on the following: (1) Kaapeha Signal -- plans are still going through City approval process and approval is still anticipated by the end of the year. An initial review as been successfully completed. (2) Lehiwa Signal -- contractor has started the material ordering process, with the signal planned to be operational by the end of the year. (3) Recreation Center 7 -- testing has finished and the report will be submitted within the month, generally reporting on condensation and moisture problems. (4) Mailbox clusters -- mailbox gang boxes are required by the United States Post Office, and are being required to be even more concentrated in the newer sections of Castle and Cooke development. The Post Office says that future mailboxes need to be ganged 16 boxes at a time and mounted on a pedestal placed at the beginning of a roadway (with Post Office vehicle access facing the road). Castle and Cooke are noting several concerns: of esthetics -- the pedestal would thus be placed blocking of some resident's home, of liability -- the question includes ownership (and future repair and replacement responsibility), and of accessibility -- the distance that those at the end of the street will have to walk to get to their box.

Questions, comments and answers: (1) In response to a question from Chair Graffigna about postal boxes, Gaston reported that carriers (referencing the Oahu letter carriers union president) do not agree with the need for the 16-gang boxes but that carriers do not think the decision can be changed. Suwa asked about how the public could make itself heard on the issue, with Gaston reporting that he will give

the information he has to the Board but that he does not know to whom Board concerns should be addressed, stressing that the Post Office is seeking to increase efficiency. Suwa commented that one gang-box per cull de sac would be a savings and would provide more security for mail over un-locked boxes; Gaston stressed that the City does not want the boxes on the City right-of-way and that there is not always an ownership association to turn over the liability to. Ribellia commented on the need to replace a box when it rusts, noting that the Post Office does not replace boxes.

An audience member asked (from off microphone) about responsibility for studies on traffic lights, with Gaston explaining that the City will do studies, requiring Castle and Cooke to install (and pay for) lights based on the study, but that after the turnover of property to the City all will become the responsibility of the City. Chair Graffigna requested that audience members identify themselves and use the microphone since the meeting was being recorded for production of the official minutes, as well as to enable those present and the television audience to hear. The audience member declined and asked about how the decision for so many lights had occurred, saying that he wished to see the traffic study and that he thought there were too many traffic lights, recommending that a better decision would be to have parents walk their children in the community and to have school crossing guards. Gaston said that the study was probably public record. Chair Graffigna explained that those issues were not with Gaston or Castle and Cooke but with the City, suggesting that a request form to Mayor Hannemann's office could be filled out so that the Mayor's representative would be able to respond at a future meeting.

**Honolulu High Capacity Corridor Project Transit** – Chair Graffigna noted a presentation was scheduled and deferred the report to the presentation agenda item.

**Other Community Concerns** – Chair Graffigna said that Launani Valley residents had expressed to her that the lower half of Wikao Street should be designated as 'no parking' zone; she requested Brandon Mitsuda of Council Chair Dela Cruz's Office to see if that was possible.

#### **REPORTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS:**

**Mayor's Representative** – Michelle Kidani represented Mayor Hannemann, distributed the Mayor's monthly report and highlighted that bus service was to be implemented for the upper portion of Mililani Mauka with the addition of two routes (Route 501 and Route 505) and that the graffiti tagged signs reported at the April meeting had been scheduled to be replaced by the end of last month (April). Young asked about the start of the new routes, Kidani said she would have a report for the June meeting.

**Governor's Representative** – Brian Sekiguchi, Deputy Director (Airports) of the Hawaii Department of Transportation, represented Governor Lingle, distributed a Governor's Office press release and discussed the following: (1) Kamehameha Highway rehabilitation project (Waihau Street to H-2 Interchange) is scheduled for January to February 2007 (2) an asphalt shortage has been causing repair and construction completion problems (3) eight trailer classrooms will be placed at Mililani Ike Elementary School starting May 30, 2006 with all available to the school on July 17 (ten days before start of school year of July 27, 2006) (4) Governor has released \$5.4 million for Kapolei High School construction (10-classroom building) which is to be completed by the end of 2007. Sekiguchi noted that traveling through the airport will be a problem during the summer as fare wars and the regular summer increase in air traffic occurs. Chair Graffigna asked about the amount of time to be allowed for check in; Sekiguchi said that if you were to check in mid-day a United Airlines you should allow for a full two hours before the flight. Sekiguchi said that the interisland terminal areas on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday could be especially busy. Chair Graffigna requested that the Department of Education (DOE) be invited to attend to discuss school funding and planning for new schools, noting that the increase of 17,000 new area homes needs to be addressed by many agencies, but especially the question of "where are the students going?" Sekiguchi said he would follow up.

**Council Chair Donovan Dela Cruz** - Brandon Mitsuda represented Council Chair Dela Cruz, distributed the Councilmember's report and highlighted the following: (1) Budget hearings are in progress and everyone is invited to testify (2) the recent Taste of Mililani event was successful with the Councilmember's staff participating (3) the Wahiawa Pineapple Festival will be held May 20, 2006 (4) ongoing issues include pursuing intersection repaving, the Department of Transportation Services traffic study, Meheula Parkway speeding (HPD is increasing monitoring) and the possible locating of speed monitor trailers on area streets.

**Senator Robert Bunda** – A representative was not present.

**Senator Ron Menor** – A representative was not present.

**Representative Marilyn Lee** – Representative Lee was present, distributed a written report, highlighted the recently completed legislative session, and discussed the need to request the release of the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) funds by the governor including \$160 million to renovate Department of Education classrooms, \$40 million for a Facilities Special Fund and \$35 million for general repair. Supported community projects include a Kapolei High School telephone system, restroom at Mililani Iki, funds to ease impact of implementation of the weighted school formula, and funds for "safety routes to school." Hazama extended thanks for her successful efforts and hard work. Ribellia asked about timetable for next year's legislation; Lee asked for proposals to be submitted now since staff time could be assigned over the summer. Ellis expressed dismay over legislators' suggestion to change public employee retiree coverage and opposed House Bill 2950.

**Representative Marcus Oshiro** – A representative was not present.

**All other Legislative Reports** – No report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS/COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Presentation: Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project:** Jennifer Russell and Pat Lee were present to give information on the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project. Russell gave the following overview for the proposed projects corridor, alternatives, and schedules, with Lee assisting in responding to questions and comments:

- The project corridor runs from Kapolei through Ewa, Waipahu, Pearl City Aiea, Downtown to the University of Hawaii (UH) Manoa.
- Growth projections in 2000 ranked Mililani seventh in population; 2030 ranks Mililani at tenth in population growth.
- Alternative Analysis – The Honolulu City Council will use to select locally preferred alternative.
- Required by the Federal Transit Administration are cost estimates, revenue estimates, transportation benefits, and environmental, social and economic effects.
  - Alternative 1: No build alternative:
    - a) Existing bus system, with expansion only to support growth.
    - b) Projects committed in the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan – North-South Road; Leeward Commuter Ferry; H-1 Freeway and Farrington Highway widening; H-1 Carpool (High Occupancy Vehicle) lanes (Makakilo-Waiawa) Zipper lane.
  - Alternative 2: Transportation System Management Alternative – construction of low-cost new facilities (transit centers); aggressive improvements to bus system and services; everything included in no build.
  - Alternative 3: Managed Lane Alternative – Construction of two-lane grade separated guide way (Waipahu to Downtown Honolulu; managed use of lanes, to maintain free-flow speeds for buses; may also allow high-occupancy vehicles; toll-paying single-occupant vehicles (with variable pricing).

- Alternative 4: Fixed Guide way Alternative: Fixes guide way system – high capacity, reliable travel times, integrated with bus, parking, walking. Multiple alignment options. Potential station locations identified.
- Schedule: December 2005, scooping meetings completed; January – October 2006, technical studies and public outreach; November 2006, issue alternatives analysis report; November/December 2006, public hearing on alternatives analysis; and December 2006, City Council selects locally preferred alternative.
- More information is at [www.honolulutransit.org](http://www.honolulutransit.org)
- Feedback on project website goes to councilmembers.

Young asked about Alternative 4 and suggested a spur to Central Oahu; Russell noted that the Kapolei –Ewa population was greater than planned Central expansion, explaining to Young and Ribellia that the population projects come from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO). Ellis pointed out that many projects have suggested transit should be to UH Manoa from Central but pointed out that problems include need for security, guards, photos, lights, and safety. Ellis also commented that students need to transport mopeds on transit lines. Suwa asked about current “park ‘n ride” numbers; Russell said that there is not high usage but that the planned circulator buses should increase users, also noting that the current and planned alternatives were for “kiss ‘n ride” rather than “park ‘n ride” users. Suwa noted that her answer was integral to the system. Hazama noted that there were not many alternatives in the Pearl City corridor; Russell said more alternatives were at the core including a possible Waikiki branch, noting that part of the current study is the cost and rider-ship analysis. Hazama asked about the earlier decisions; Russell and Lee explained that the current project was limited to present alternatives to the Council, with the Council making decision. Ribellia added that Council hearings would be held, with Hazama noting that hearing were not public meetings and Lee adding that there are several hearing in the legislative process. Young expressed disappointment that the Central community was not recognized as first class citizens and said they should have been included in the first round. Representative Lee reported that the legislature had passed a resolution favoring the Central spur. Suwa said that the character of the community was not in question but the raw numbers of houses built at Kapolei are what are driving the study, but that Central is now planning to build more; Russell said that even with the planned houses included, the density is still in the Kapolei area. Mossman expressed thanks for the presentation.

**Resolution: Urging the State Department of Education and Legislature to properly plan for the construction of, and budget for the funding of, schools needed in Central Oahu because of future development.** Ribellia reported that this series of resolutions were from ideas had been discussed at the Planning and Zoning Committee and community forum. **Ribellia moved and Hazama seconded the passing of the resolution entitled -- Resolution: Urging the State Department of Education and Legislature to properly plan for the construction of, and budget for the funding of, schools needed in Central Oahu because of future development.** Ellis noted that the resolution does not require the DOE to obtain monies and that there needs to be coordination among the four involved agencies. Ribellia reported that past meetings had heard that it was the DOE and the legislature who have the responsibility to fund schools and that the Board needs to rally behind these agencies. Ellis explained that the resolution should be restated to require that the four agencies responsible for building work together, suggesting the creation of a real working group, especially noting that the City’s sustainable communities plan is not being followed. Ribellia repeated that it means the DOE that is the key and that they need to be pursued. **Representative Lee pointed out that she has experienced underestimation of the DOE’s enrollment projections and suggested that the projection process could be reviewed, but that now schools need expansion, saying that the phrase “school expansion” could be added in the first ‘further resolved’ phrase, with Ribellia agreeing and seconding Lee’s amendment.** There was no objection. Suwa pointed that it was a good first step to provide the DOE with direction of where the community stands. Mossman said Ellis was right and said the resolution should be passed. Blackwell thanked Ribellia for the resolution, saying that it was a good result from the ideas presented but also said Ellis was correct that the resolution needed a punch line; she said the resolution should be passed since this is what the

community wants. Hazama said he supports Lee's amendment and especially likes the innovative suggestions in the eighth paragraph where alternative funding is suggested. Suwa urged the amendment and the resolution pass, stressing that the expansions are especially need now. **Chair Graffigna restated the resolution as, without objection, including the amending "school expansion" phrase suggested by Lee and seconded by Ribellia and asked for approval of the resolution entitled -- Resolution: Urging the State Department of Education and Legislature to properly plan for the construction of, and budget for the funding of, schools needed in Central Oahu because of future development; the resolution passed 8-1-0. Aye:** Agader, Blackwell, Graffigna, Hazama, Mossman, Ribellia, Suwa, Young. **No:** Ellis.

**Resolution: Urging the State Department of Transportation and Legislature to properly plan for the construction of, and budget for the funding of, roadways and other transit infrastructure needed in Central Oahu because of current and future development.** Ribellia moved and Hazama seconded to pass the document entitled: **Resolution: Urging the State Department of Transportation and Legislature to properly plan for the construction of, and budget for the funding of, roadways and other transit infrastructure needed in Central Oahu because of current and future development.** Blackwell and Ribellia discussed phrasing in the resolution, questioning if the proper phrase should be concurrency or urgency, with Chair Graffigna suggesting "to coincide." Ellis said that he had a bigger problem with this resolution than the past resolution, since here the agency know the need but do not have the funds. Young suggested the need was timing, with Blackwell saying the resolution says timing but the need is for planning. Suwa pointed to the need to prioritize; Ribellia said the need is to provide a hold at the permit process point, such as the building permit issuance. Chair Graffigna suggested that the resolution could be refined at the Board's committee of the whole meeting and brought back to the Board meeting at the following month. **Ellis moved and Mossman seconded to defer discussion and to table the resolution to the next meeting following possible revision at the Board's committee of the whole; Chair Graffigna announced that the motion to table passed unanimously, 9-0-0. Aye:** Agader, Blackwell, Ellis, Graffigna, Hazama, Mossman, Ribellia, Suwa, Young. Ellis commented on the need to put Representative Lee on all 'copy to' phrases.

**Resolution: Urging to create and establish a "coalition" to lobby government agencies on various issues relating to Central Oahu, Waikele, Waipio Gentry, Wahiawa, Royal Kunia and Waipahu.** Ribellia moved and Hazama seconded that the Board the resolution entitled: **Resolution: Urging to create and establish a "coalition" to lobby government agencies on various issues relating to Central Oahu, Waikele, Waipio Gentry, Wahiawa, Royal Kunia and Waipahu.** Ellis commented that the use of the word 'coalition' was not as powerful as 'working group,' explaining that he hears a negative term in the word 'coalition' and suggested to delete the collaborative and to name the specific agencies and to use words like 'community.' Ribellia explained that the inputted word 'coalition' comes from the community forum. Ellis said the discussion was the failure of the groups to work together; Ribellia said the idea was for the groups to be in partnership. Chair Graffigna asked about a writing of a neighborhood board letter of invitation prior to the resolution; Ribellia said that if the community was serious, there needs to be more than just one neighborhood board. Chair Graffigna suggested, "join us" as a phrase, with Young and Ribellia suggesting leadership but that group could develop its own dynamics. Young suggested concern about "representative" and the need for those involved to report back to their groups; Suwa suggested passage "as is" to start process, with Blackwell agreeing. Ellis said no one was opposed to motion, all only spoke to make suggestions. **Ribellia moved to call the question, which passed 5-4-0 to end debate. Aye:** Agader, Hazama, Mossman, Ribellia, Suwa. **No:** Blackwell, Ellis, Graffigna, Young.

**On the motion that the Board pass the resolution entitled: "Resolution: Urging to create and establish a "coalition" to lobby government agencies on various issues relating to Central Oahu, Waikele, Waipio Gentry, Wahiawa, Royal Kunia and Waipahu", Chair Graffigna announced that the motion failed 4-5-0. Aye:** Agader, Hazama, Ribellia, Suwa. **No:** Blackwell, Ellis, Graffigna, Mossman, Young.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Transportation** – Young reported that the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization's Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) has been meeting to prioritize future projects and that the next meeting will be held on May 17 at the Mayor's Conference Room at Honolulu Hale. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

**Education** – No report.

**Health/Public Safety** – No report.

**Planning/Zoning** – Chair Graffigna noted that Hazama had been designated as representing the Board at meetings of a Koa Ridge Advisory Group, a visioning team established by Castle & Cooke Housing. She reported that the group had been inactive and hoped to have a report from Hazama on past meetings, as well as a discussion of additional representation to Castle & Cooke Housing at the Board's committee of the whole.

**Recognition** – No report.

**Military/Civil Defense** – No report.

**Parks & Recreation** – No report.

**Legislative** – No report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. The next Regular Meeting of the Mililani Mauka/Launani Valley Neighborhood Board will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the Mililani Mauka Elementary School Cafeteria, 95-1111 Makaikai Street.
2. June 6, 2006 Committee of the Whole Meeting will be held at the Mililani Ike Elementary School Cafeteria at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Without objections, Chair Graffigna adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Submitted by:

Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office staff